

June 7, 1900.

To the President, Officers and Members of the
Royal Templars of Temperance Supreme Council,
in session at Buffalo, N.Y., June 19.

My Dear Friends: --

As chairman of the committee appointed by the National-American Woman Suffrage Association to address letters to all of the large conventions held this year, allow me to bring before you the great need for the recognition of the women of our country in all of the rights, privileges and immunities of United States citizens.

In appealing to your organization for an endorsement of political equality for women, I do not forget the fact that the Sons of Temperance, the Good Templars and very many kindred associations have from time to time in the past given the weight of their influence on the side of this demand for justice to what men are wont to call "the better half" of the people. While all women may not be total abstainers individually or prohibitionists politically, the vast majority of wives and mothers if they could vote would cast their ballots against the licensing of saloons, brothels, and gambling-houses; therefore it is but reasonable to expect that women's enfranchisement would bring added strength to all organizations arrayed against the three institutions which perpetually menace the peace and purity of the home.

Let me urge you, then, to adopt a resolution in favor of woman suffrage and order your officers, on behalf of the Council, to sign the enclosed petition for a Sixteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, which shall prohibit the disfranchisement of United States citizens on account of sex.

Please make two copies of it on your own official paper, and when signed return both to me for presentation to Congress. Kindly send me also a copy of the woman suffrage resolution, should one be passed. In any case, I shall esteem it a favor to be informed of whatever action may be taken on these requests.

Hoping to hear from you favorably, I am,

Very sincerely yours,